

## EIM Help – Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) Collected by Sediment Trap

Version 1.1  
January 2009

Samples of suspended particulate matter in the water column are collected by sediment trap devices placed in the water column for periods of time and usually positioned at a pre-determined depth from the bottom. Sediment traps can also be placed in stormwater catch basins. Upon retrieval of the sediment traps, overlaying water is removed and the remaining sediments are analyzed. These are the values we enter into EIM.

Sediment accumulation rates can then be calculated by using the mass of material collected on a dry weight basis, the surface area of the trap, and the duration of the deployment. We do not enter these calculated values into EIM.

| Type of Sample                      | Matrix         | Source              | Sample Fraction |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| SPM sediment<br>(from freshwater)   | Solid/Sediment | Fresh/Surface Water | Suspended       |
| *SPM sediment<br>(from stormwater)  | Solid/Sediment | Stormwater          | Suspended       |
| SPM sediment<br>(from marine water) | Solid/Sediment | Salt/Marine Water   | Suspended       |

In addition to the standard required fields, the following fields and associated values will be required when entering Sediment Trap SPM data into EIM:

### **REQUIRED fields and values for data entry of SPM data collected by sediment trap**

Field Activity Start Date (F)

Field Activity End Date (H)

Field Activity Start Time (G)

Field Activity End Time (I)

\*\*Field Activity Upper Depth (N)

\*\*Field Activity Lower Depth (O)

\*\*Field Activity Depth UOM (P)

\*\*Field Activity Reference Point (M) e.g. distance above bottom surface

Sample Composite Sample (V) sediment trap samples will always be "Y"

Sample Method Code (AB) Search Method table for "SEDTRAP" and choose appropriate code, if yours is not in there, request a new code be added

Result Method Code (BH) Enter the method that the lab used to analyze the

Sample Matrix, Sample Source, and Result Sample Fraction (W, X, BE) *see chart above*

Suggested to also include a Field Activity Comment (J):

SPM collected using a sediment trap

\* See Stormwater Data Entry Business rule for information on entering stormwater locations.

\*\* Not needed for stormwater. For water column sampling, an example would be to enter "10" for both the upper and lower depths if you sampled 10 ft. above bottom surface.